

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAHA 00601 230602Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
OTPE-00 EB-07 FCC-01 COME-00 BIB-01 IO-13 /077 W
----- 102075 /15

R 230417Z DEC 76
FM AMCONSUL NAHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2287
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NAHA 601
E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETEL, JA
SUBJECT: OKINAWA REVERSION AGREEMENT: FAR EAST BROADCASTING
COMPANY TO TERMINATE OPERATIONS ON OKINAWA
REF: AICHI-MEYER LETTER OF JUNE 17, 1971
1. SUMMARY: ON JAN 3, FAR EAST BROADCASTING COMPANY
(FEBC) WILL ANNOUNCE THE TERMINATION OF ITS OPERATION ON
OKINAWA, EFFECTIVE JAN 15. DECISION MADE IN
LIGHT OF OKINAWA REVERSION AGREEMENT AND ABSENCE OF ANY
INDICATION THAT FEBC COULD RECEIVE GOJ AUTHORITY TO
CONTINUE OPERATIONS AFTER MAY 15, 1977. FEBC WILL OPEN
NEW OPERATION ON SAIPAN. END SUMMARY.
2. FEBC FIELD DIRECTOR RICHA L JOHNSON HAS CONFIDENTIALLY

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INFORMED CONGEN THAT FEBC WILL TERMINATE ITS OPERATIONS ON
OKINAWA ON JANUARY 15 AND OPEN NEW OPERATIONS ON SAIPAN.
BACKGROUND IS PROVISION IN REFERENCE REVERSION AGREEMENT
THAT FEBC COULD CONTINUE TO OPERATE FOR PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS
AFTER REVERSION AND COMPLETE ABSENCE OF ANY INDICATION THAT
FEBC COULD OBTAIN GOJ AUTHORIZATION TO OPERATE AFTER MAY 15,
1977.
3. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT WHICH FEBC
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WILL RELEASE LOCALLY AT 0700 HOURS JANUARY 3, 1977
(OKINAWA TIME).
4. BEGIN TEXT. ALL NORMAL CHANNELS OPEN TO FEBC TO
EXTEND THE LICENSE OF JOFF HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED AND THE
JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HAS REQUESTED THAT WE ABIDE BY OUR
REVERSION AGREEMENT AND CEASE OPERATION ON MAY 14, 1977.

WITH THE EXPANSION OF FEBC THAT IS NOW BEING PLANNED,
THE PRESIDENT OF FEBC, DR. ROBERT BOWMAN, HAS REQUESTED THAT
FEBC DISCONTINUE THE OPERATION OF JOFF AT A DATE EARLIER
THAN THAT SET BY THE JAPANESE OFFICIALS. DR. BOWMAN HAS
REQUESTED THAT CERTAIN PERSONNEL ARE NOW NEEDED IN OTHER
FACILITIES AND THAT THEY BE IMMEDIATELY UTILIZED IN A FEBC

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EXPANSION PROJECT.

WE GREATLY APPRECIATE THE KINDNESS OF THE GOJ IN
ALLOWING THIS STATION TO OPERATE DURING THE PAST THREE
YEARS, AND WE WANT IT CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE NEW
CLOSURE DATE DOES NOT IN ANYWAY INFER THAT THERE HAS BEEN
ANY PRESSURE FROM EXTERNAL SOURCES. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF
THE EXISTING OPPORTUNITIES, DR. BOWMAN HAS ORDERED THAT
JOFF CEASE OPERATION ON OKINAWA AS OF 8:00 PM (2000 HOURS)
JANUARY 15, 1977. END TEXT.

KNOWLES

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Message Attributes

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